

## **Miracle Mile**

### **Boundaries:**

The site is located in west Tucson, and is bounded approximately by Wetmore Road to the north, Flowing Wells Road to the east, Prince Road to the south, and La Cholla Boulevard to the west.

### **Site History:**

- In 1983, groundwater was found to be contaminated beneath a trailer park within the former Miracle Mile study area. ADEQ began investigating the site by researching facilities in the area that may have been the source of contamination. ADEQ also distributed questionnaires concerning the use of hazardous substances to knowledgeable parties.
- In 1988, further soil and groundwater sampling was conducted. ADEQ also collected groundwater data, performed facility inspections and reissued questionnaires to knowledgeable parties. Research was done to determine historic land use activities and property ownership.
- Between 1990 and 2004, ADEQ installed 32 groundwater monitor wells to investigate the groundwater conditions and contamination in the perched and regional aquifers as part of the remedial investigation.
- In September 1998, the site was placed on the WQARF Registry with an eligibility and evaluation (E&E) score of 62 out of a possible 120.
- In 2001, in response to a request for an interim remedial action from Flowing Wells Irrigation District (FWID), ADEQ re-equipped production well FWID-72 and constructed surface storage facilities after completion of a water supply study to identify and evaluate alternate water supplies.
- Between 2001 and 2004, passive soil gas surveys and soil borings were completed to obtain soil gas and soil samples to investigate potential soil contamination.
- In Summer 2002, ADEQ abandoned the inactive Fairfax Industrial Park industrial production well to prevent potential cross-contamination between the contaminated perched aquifer and the underlying regional aquifer.

### **Site Status:**

- In 2004, four additional perched aquifer and two regional aquifer monitoring wells were installed to determine the extent of contamination.
- In 2004, soil sampling was completed at two facilities to determine if soil contamination existed in shallow soils.
- The draft Remedial Investigation Report summarizing site characterization activities is expected to be completed by June 2006.

- FWID and ADEQ are currently designing a joint wellhead treatment system to remove arsenic and volatile organic compounds from water produced by two FWID water supply wells to minimize the risk of drinking contaminated water. The treatment system is expected to be operational by June 2006.

#### **Site Hydrogeology:**

- The site is located within the Tucson Basin, a northwest trending alluvial valley covering an area of about 750 square miles in the Santa Cruz River drainage basin of southeastern Arizona.
- The subsurface materials underlying the site are predominately fine to coarse-grained sands and silts, interbedded clay and gravel-sized sediments. A clay aquitard of variable thickness occurs at around 80 feet below ground surface (bgs), underlying the perched aquifer.
- Depth to the perched aquifer is about 70 feet bgs; the regional aquifer is about 160 feet bgs. The current flow direction in the regional aquifer is to the north/northwest.

#### **Contaminants:**

The current contaminants of concern in groundwater are trichloroethene (TCE) and chromium. Contaminants of concern at the site may change as new data become available.

#### **Public Health Impact:**

The Arizona Department of Health Services completed a draft baseline human health risk assessment in January 1995 on the Miracle Mile Interchange Area. No significant health risks associated with this site have been identified at this time.

The FWID operates two production wells downgradient from the regional aquifer contaminant plume. ADEQ samples these FWID wells on a semi-annual basis to ensure these wells have not been impacted by contamination from the site.

The Crescent Manor Mobile Home Park was switched from a local supply well to Flowing Wells Irrigation District water in December 1993, when sampling indicated that the water exceeded the federal drinking water maximum contaminant level (MCL) for trichloroethene (TCE). Quarterly sampling, conducted by ADEQ since 1995, has not indicated exceedances for the TCE MCL. Crescent Manor Mobile Home Park is currently using water from its private well.

#### **Community Involvement Activities:**

A community advisory board (CAB) was formed in November 1999 and meets on a regular basis. These meetings are open to the public. The CAB meeting agendas and minutes can be viewed at <http://azdeq.gov/environ/waste/sps/meeting.html>

**Information Repositories:**

Interested parties can review site information at the information repository at the Woods Library located at 3455 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue in Tucson, (520) 791-4548. Site information is also available at both ADEQ's Southern Regional Office located at 400 W. Congress, Suite 433 in Tucson, and the main office located at 1110 W. Washington Street in Phoenix. Files are available for review Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please call (520) 628-6715 to arrange a file review appointment at the Southern Regional Office. To arrange for a time to review the site file at the main ADEQ office, please call the ADEQ Records Center (602) 771-4378 or (800) 234-5677 (Arizona toll-free).

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\* In Arizona, but outside the Tucson area, call toll free (888) 271-9302.